

September 15, 2006

Patrick Morris
State Water Resources Control Board
Central Valley Region
11020 Sun Center Drive, No. 200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Dear Mr. Morris:

Thank you for calling upon the Delta Mercury TMDL Collaborative (Collaborative), facilitated by the Delta Protection Commission, to provide a forum for a presentation on the Mercury TMDL by Regional Water Quality Control Board staff on August 24, 2006.

While the Collaborative will be formally submitting comments on the Draft Basin Plan Amendment and providing specific recommendations for changes to currently proposed Plan language, the workshop has provided an opportunity to submit the following input relative to the TMDL development process.

- Data and studies supporting the TMDL for Methylmercury Staff Report (released June 2006) should be provided to those scientists solicited by the Regional Board to review that staff report and the Draft Basin Plan Amendment report released in June 2006.
- Data supporting the studies should be provided to all reviewers that have requested such studies at public presentations, workshops, or through direct requests to Regional Board staff, including the Collaborative.
- Following is a list of planning and program implementation efforts currently underway in the Delta that should be taken into consideration in the development of the Delta Methylmercury TMDL.

State Delta Vision Process

The Delta Vision Process is a broader strategic planning process focusing on the development of the future of the Delta (including discussion of its future configuration and beneficial uses).

Contact: Rod Meade, consultant to the Resources Agency
Rmeade@calwater.ca.gov

Delta Risk Management Strategy (DRMS)

AB 1200 (CWC Section 139.2 et seq.) requires that DWR and DFG evaluate the potential impacts on water supplies derived from the Delta based on 50-, 100-, and 200-year projections for each of the following possible impacts: subsidence, earthquakes, floods, climate change & sea level rise, or a combination of the above. The DRMS study will

provide the majority of this required information. The report is due to the Legislature no later than January 1, 2008.

Contact: Ralph Sveditch, Department of Water Resources.
Drms@water.ca.gov; (916) 651-7020

Delta Regional Ecosystem Restoration Implementation Plan (DRERIP)

The Department of Fish & Game is implementing the process for development of a regional ecosystem restoration plan for the Delta, consistent with the CALFED program.

Contact: Brad Burkholder, Department of Fish and Game
Bburkholder@delta.dfg.ca.gov; (209) 948-7800

Delta Long-Term Management Strategy (LTMS)

This strategy addressing dredging and the reuse of dredge material for infrastructure improvements in the Delta is largely fashioned after the successful San Francisco Bay LTMS.

Contact: Al Paniccia, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Al.Paniccia@usace.army.mil

Bay-Delta Conservation Plan

Planning is underway to develop a Delta-wide aquatic conservation plan.

Contact: Cindy Darling, CA Bay-Delta Authority
Darling@calwater.ca.gov; (916) 445-0977

State Parks Central Valley Vision

The recently-adopted Plan covers potential implementation of parks and recreational facilities in the Delta.

Contact: Nina Gordon, Department of Parks and Recreation
Ngordon@parks.ca.gov; (916) 653-9901

- The Collaborative requests copies of all comments (formally and informally) provided to the Regional Board to date on the staff reports released in June 2006. Please send this information to: Lori Clamurro, Delta Protection Commission, P.O. Box 530, Walnut Grove, CA 95690 (or electronically to loridpc@citlink.net).

Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with this input in follow-up to the discussion at the workshop. The Collaborative will continue to be involved in the process for development of an effective Mercury TMDL program for the Delta.

Sincerely,

Linda Fiack, Executive Director, Delta Protection Commission
On behalf of the Delta Mercury TMDL Collaborative

Cc: Delta Mercury TMDL Collaborative